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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. F8-5460

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

DE GHELDERE, et al.

Application No.: 09/325,599

Filed: June 3, 1999

Title: PROCESSING SET AND METHODS

FOR PROCESSING AND TREATING)

A BIOLOGICAL FLUID

Group Art Unit: 1724

Examiner: Ivars C. Cintins

Docket No.: F8-5460

Honorable Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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5th SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, as revised on February 4, 1992, 1135 OG 23-24, Applicants hereby call the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application.

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an

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920-00 GP 180.00 GP assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Enclosed herewith is an International Search Report for the present application (Citation No. 16) and the patents referenced therein (or U.S. counterparts thereof) that have not previously been made of record in this application. Also enclosed are patents cited in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/325,325, filed simultaneously with the present application on June 3, 1999. Additional patents referenced in the specification are also enclosed, including U.S. Patent No. 4,294,247.

Applicants also respectfully reserve the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a first Office Action, but

before a Notice of Allowance or final action. Accordingly, enclosed is the fee of \$180.00. If it is determined that any additional fee is required for this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Respectfully submitted,

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